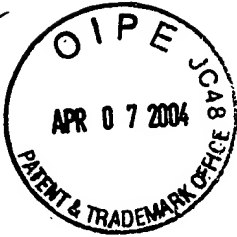


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PATENT
Attorney Docket No. ASC-043

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT(S): Eugene A. Fitzgerald and Nicole Gerrish
SERIAL NO.: 09/884,517 GROUP NO.: 2822
FILING DATE: June 19, 2001 EXAMINER: Khanh B. Duong
TITLE: CMOS INVERTER AND INTEGRATED CIRCUITS UTILIZING
STRAINED SILICON SURFACE CHANNEL MOSFETS

Commissioner for Patents
P.O.Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

Sir:

In response to the Office action of December 22, 2003, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 6 of this paper.